



**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF MONO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Regular Meetings: The First, Second, and Third Tuesday of each month. Location of meeting is specified just below.
Teleconference Only - No Physical Location

**Regular Meeting
November 3, 2020**

9:01 AM Meeting Called to Order by Chair Corless.

Supervisors Present: Corless, Gardner, Kreitz, Peters, and Stump (all attended via teleconference).

Supervisors Absent: None.

All votes were conducted by roll call.

The Mono County Board of Supervisors stream most of their meetings live on the internet and archives them afterward. To search for a meeting from June 2, 2015 forward, please go to the following link: <http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/meetings>.

Pledge of Allegiance led by CAO Lawton.

Supervisor Gardner:

- "We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate." – Thomas Jefferson

Supervisor Stump:

- "In all activities, may I examine my mind. And as soon as conflicting emotions arise, endangering myself and others, may I firmly face and avert them." – Langri Thangpa

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Patricia Robertson, Mammoth Lakes Housing Executive Director:

- Rental assistance program update
- MLH will be hosting a "Tenant Protections During COVID" webinar

2. RECOGNITIONS – NONE

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

CAO Report regarding Board Assignments

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Met with auditors, look forward to getting their report
- Working with Beth Cohen to continue the progress started earlier this year addressing workplace wellness
- Continued involvement with Economic Recovery team, Enforcement team, Business Roundtable, Unified Command meetings
- Working with Behavioral Health and the housing project through the Town of Mammoth Lakes
- Met with Community Development to discuss housing grant options and strategies
- Assistant CAO recruitment update

4. DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION REPORTS

Kevin Julian, Road Superintendent:

- Golden Gate Road update and Slink Fire burn scar

Justin Nalder, Solid Waste Superintendent:

- Community clean up events throughout county – Facelift Eastside, J.R. Krueger at Upper Twin Lakes
- Update on item going before Town Council tomorrow (11/4) – Potential biomass project. Town is looking to establish agreement with Earthcare LLC. Town is focused on technology selection, design, planning, location, financial feasibility. Potential of having the site on or adjacent to Pumice Valley Landfill.

Pat Espinosa, Social Services Senior Services Manager:

- Update on seniors enrolled in programs

Shannon Kendall, Clerk-Recorder-Registrar:

- Polls are open
- A lot of use of the Vote-by-Mail hotline – minimizes number of provisional ballots
- Election Office has already checked in over 4,500 ballots

5. CONSENT AGENDA

(All matters on the consent agenda are to be approved on one motion unless a board member requests separate action on a specific item.)

A. Board Minutes - September 15, 2020

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approval of the Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting on September 15, 2020.

Action: Approve the Board Minutes from the Regular Meeting on September 15, 2020.

Peters moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-211

B. Board Minutes - September 22, 2020

Departments: Clerk of the Board

Approval of the Board Minutes from the Special Meeting on September 22, 2020.

Action: Approve the Board Minutes from the Special Meeting on September 22, 2020.

Peters moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-212

C. 2020 Snow Removal Priorities

Departments: Public Works - Roads

The Board of Supervisors annually considers policies, procedures, and priorities for the Department of Public Works' snow removal operations that are memorialized through Board Resolution, with supporting written policies and a countywide map.

Action: Adopt Resolution R20-97, A Resolution of the Mono County Board of Supervisors Re-Establishing Snow Removal Policies, Procedures, and Priorities for County-Maintained Roads.

Peters moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

R20-97

D. Monthly Treasury Transaction Report

Departments: Finance

Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 9/30/2020.

Action: Approve the Treasury Transaction Report for the month ending 9/30/2020.

Peters moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-213

E. Quarterly Investment Report

Departments: Finance

Investment Report for the Quarter ending 9/30/2020.

Action: Approve the Investment Report for the Quarter ending 9/30/2020.

Peters moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-214

F. Appointments to Special Districts

Departments: Elections

Pursuant to Government Code 1780 and Elections Code Section 10515(b), the Mono County Registrar of Voters is requesting that the Board of Supervisors appoint to office persons who: (1) have filed declarations of

candidacy for election but are running unopposed (or the number of vacant seats is equal to or greater than the number of candidates); (2) people who have applied/been recommended by a special district board to fill vacancies on that board where no candidate has filed a declaration of candidacy; and/or (3) persons who have applied/been recommended by the special district board to temporarily fill a vacancy on that board occurring outside of the election cycle.

Action:

Appoint members to fill Special District board vacancies as set forth below:

Antelope Valley Water District	Harold Curti	11/30/2024
	Dwain Chichester	11/30/2024
Birchim Community Services District	Robin Davis	11/30/2024
	Lori Michelin	11/30/2022
	Steve Toups	11/30/2024
Bridgeport Fire District	Joe Huggans	11/30/2024
	Jim Reid	11/30/2024
Bridgeport Public Utility District	Kenneth Reynolds	11/30/2024
Chalfant Valley Fire Protection / Community Services District	Gina Barsi	11/30/2024
	Debbe Eilts	11/30/2024
	Christopher P. Wickam	11/30/2024
June Lake Fire Protection District	David Naaden	11/30/2024
	Keith Potter	11/30/2024
	Jon Simmons	11/30/2024
June Lake Public Utility District	Jerry Hallum	11/30/2024
	Sarah Minich	11/30/2024
	Justin Walsh	11/30/2024
Lee Vining Fire Protection District	Dulce Pasatti	11/30/2024
Lee Vining Public Utility District	Rebecca Watkins	11/30/2024
	Paul McFarland	11/30/2024
	Tim Banta	11/30/2024
Long Valley Fire Protection District	Tom Beveridge	11/30/2024
	Hank Brown	11/30/2024
	Ron Day	11/30/2024
Mammoth Lakes Community Service District	Joel Brown	11/30/2024
Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District	John W. Mendel	11/30/2024
	Carole A. Schilz	11/30/2024
	David "Buck" Wahl	11/30/2024
Mammoth Community Water District	Thomas Cage	11/30/2024

	Thomas R. Smith	11/30/2024
	Gary Thompson	11/30/2024
Mono City Fire Protection District	Doug Thornburg	11/30/2024
	John Warneke	11/30/2024
Paradise Fire Protection District	Dale Beeson	11/30/2024
	Evan Russell	11/30/2024
Southern Mono Healthcare District	David Anderson	11/30/2024
	Laurey Carlson	11/30/2024
	Alec Clowes	11/30/2024
Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District		11/30/2024
At Large	Geri Bassett	11/30/2024
Director A	Phillip West III	11/30/2024
Director B	Dave Doonan	11/30/2024
	Matt Doonan	11/30/2024
Wheeler Crest Community Services District	Danny Ray	11/30/2024
	Connors	11/30/2024
	Brent W. Miller	11/30/2024
	Dale Schaub	11/30/2024
Wheeler Crest Fire Protection District	Michael Bornfield	11/30/2024
	Bill Goodman	11/30/2024
	Helmut Grigereit	11/30/2024
White Mountain Fire Protection District	Jarret Phillips	11/30/2024
	Matthew Yount	11/30/2024

Stump moved as amended; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-215

Scheereen Dedman, Assistant Clerk-Recorder-Registrar:

- Presented updated appointments

6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Direction may be given to staff regarding, and/or the Board may discuss, any item of correspondence listed on the agenda.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the correspondence.

A. State Water Resources Control Board Order Approving Temporary Urgency Changes

State Water Resources Control Board Order approving petitions for renewal of temporary urgency change of Licenses 10191 and 10192 (Applications 8042 and 8043) of City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power.

B. Letter re: Inyo / Mono County Veteran Affairs Representative

A letter from Todd Estrada to the Board expressing concerns regarding the Inyo / Mono County Veteran Affairs representative.

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Provided background on Inyo / Mono County Veteran Affairs representative position
- Services are currently being provided through Kern County
- Will report back to the Board with what steps will be taken to restore the access to services for Mono County veterans

C. Letter re: COVID-19 Response

A letter from "Mammoth Group" to the Board regarding COVID-19, asserting that there has been a lack of communication from appointed health officials regarding the pandemic.

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Addressed assertions made in the letter

7. REGULAR AGENDA - MORNING

A. Update on Wildfires and Review of Open Fire Ban

(Sheriff Braun, County Counsel Simon) - Update and discussion regarding status of wildfires across the State and in Mono County. Weekly review of need for Urgency Ordinance Prohibiting Open Fires on Private Property Within the Unincorporated Area of Mono County Due to Extreme Fire Danger.

Action: None. No action keeps the Urgency Ordinance previously passed in place.

Ingrid Braun, Mono County Sheriff:

- Recommended continuation of prohibition to keep in line with the National Forests

B. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

Departments: CAO

(Robert C. Lawton, CAO, Dr. Tom Boo, Mono County Health Officer) - Update on Countywide response and planning related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including reports from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Unified Command (UC), and the various branches of the EOC, including Community Support and Economic Recovery, Joint Information Center (JIC), and Public Health.

Action: None.

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Impact on Mono County's place on the State's tier system based on a recent outbreak in North County.

Dr. Tom Boo, Mono County Health Officer:

- There has been a significant outbreak associated with the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center – they identified COVID cases beginning October 21 or 22, case numbers as of yesterday (11/2) were at 60.
- Unsure of what numbers the State will be looking at to assess disease activity in Mono County
- Week of 10/18-10/24 – Case numbers should not be high enough to warrant tier movement to a more restrictive tier. Percent positivity might be high enough.
- Week of 10/25-10/31 – Case numbers are high enough that, if sustained for an additional week, could move Mono County into the most restrictive tier, Tier 1 / Purple Tier
- Allowed up to 35 cases per week before moving to Purple Tier
- Have not identified increased community transmission related to the base, however, there is an uptick in cases not associated with the base primarily in the Mammoth Lakes and surrounding areas
- Addressed questions about false positives
- Filing a request for adjudication

Supervisor Peters:

- Spoke with Dr. Ghaly, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services, during COVID Rural working group phone call regarding anticipated cases in Mono County
- Will be joining planned call today (11/3) with Dr. Ghaly, Chair Corless, and Dr. Boo to discuss next steps regarding outbreak

Public Comment:

- Jamie Schectman
- No Name

Justin Caporusso, Public Information Manager:

- Joint Information Center can ramp up efforts and external communications if need be
- Website and portal remain updated on frequent basis

Stacey Simon, County Counsel:

- Clarified that laws and guidelines issued by the State Department of Public Health and local Health Officer have the force of law and businesses violating them will be subject to enforcement action.

Alicia Vennos, Economic Development Director:

- Mono CURE business assistance program update – review committee in last steps of reviewing applications. Finance Director Dutcher confirmed additional \$100,000 for this grant cycle, now have \$300,000 total. Appears that they will be able to fund all eligible applicants at the maximum allowable grant allocation. In reviewing the CARES Act funding and budget for County, may have enough additional funding to open second round of business assistance program.
- Current grant cycle: 29 eligible businesses out of 35 applicants
- Town of Mammoth Lakes is in final steps of reviewing applicants for Round 3 of Town's business assistance program. Will have provided funding for local businesses in the Town's jurisdiction in the amount of approximately \$300,000
- Inyo County has dispersed \$800,000 for REVIVE business assistance program
- Eastern Sierra has provided about \$1,400,000 to assist approximately 140 businesses

*Break: 10:57 AM
Reconvened: 11:07 AM*

C. Project Review Process - Current Ranking and Update

Departments: Public Works

(Joe Blanchard, Facilities Superintendent / Tony Dublino, Director of Public Works) - Presentation of the current list of prioritized projects as ranked by the Project Review Committee. Update on status of completed projects, projects in progress, and projects currently scheduled.

Action: None.

Joe Blanchard, Facilities Superintendent

- Reviewed Project Review Committee rankings

Bob Lawton, CAO:

- Suggested deferring action on item until the Board has the opportunity to discuss in Closed Session.

D. New Hire for Planning Commission Secretary at Step B

Departments: Community Development Department

(Wendy Sugimura, Community Development Director) - Hire for the Planning Commission Secretary position in the Community Development Department at Step B.

Action: Authorize the hiring of Becky Peratt as the Planning Commission Secretary in the Community Development Department at Step B.

Gardner moved; Peters seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-216

Wendy Sugimura, Community Development Director

- Presented item

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

9. CLOSED SESSION

*Closed Session: 11:45 PM
Reconvened: 1:26 PM*

Item 9F: The Board appointed Jessica Workman and Malinda Huggans to serve on the Personnel Appeals Board for a disciplinary appeal now pending with the Public Safety Officers Bargaining Unit.

A. Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. Government Code Section 54957.6. Agency designated representative(s): Bob Lawton, Stacey Simon, Dave Butters, Janet Dutcher, and Anne Frievalt. Employee Organization(s):

Mono County Sheriff's Officers Association (aka Deputy Sheriff's Association), Local 39 - majority representative of Mono County Public Employees (MCPE) and Deputy Probation Officers Unit (DPOU), Mono County Paramedic Rescue Association (PARA), Mono County Public Safety Officers Association (PSO). Unrepresented employees: All.

B. Closed Session - Public Employee Evaluation

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Administrative Officer.

C. Closed Session - Public Employee Evaluation

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. Government Code section 54957. Title: County Counsel.

D. Closed Session - Exposure to Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Number of potential cases: One.

E. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION. Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Name of case: County of Mono v. Amerisourcebergen Drug Corp. Cardinal Health, McKesson Corporation, Purdue Pharma L.P., Purdue Pharma, Inc, The Purdue Frederick Co., Inc. et al., U.S. Dist. Court for Eastern California, Case No. 2:18-cv-00149-MCE-KJN.

F. Closed Session - Existing Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION. Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. Name of case: Employee appeal of disciplinary action.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION WILL RECONVENE NO EARLIER THAN 1:00 P.M.

10. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None.

11. REGULAR AGENDA - AFTERNOON

A. Presentation of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) Public Safety Realignment Report

Departments: Probation

(Chief Probation Officer Karin Humiston) - Presentation by Chief Probation Officer Karin Humiston and members of the Executive Committee of the

Community Corrections Partnership draft Public Safety Realignment Report and Five Year Plan.

Action: None.

Chief Probation Officer Karin Humiston:

- Presentation (available under Supporting Documents on meeting webpage)
- Importance of telemedicine/telework – ability to do psychiatric evaluations at the jail

Dylan Whitmore, Deputy Probation Officer:

- Addressed Drug/DUI court cases

B. Mill / Wilson Creek Water Management - Letters to Water Right Holders and Stakeholders

Departments: County Counsel's Office

(Jason Canger, Assistant County Counsel) - Discussion and possible approval of letters to Mill Creek water right holders and stakeholders requesting assistance to address ongoing impacts to Wilson Creek fisheries and habitat.

Action: Approve letters, and direct staff to send to water right holders and stakeholders.

Gardner moved; Kreitz seconded

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

M20-217

As a result of a conflict due to owning real property within 200 feet of one of the creeks being discussed, County Counsel Simon recused herself from this item.

Jason Canger, Assistant County Counsel

- Presented item

12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Defer Board reports to next Board meeting, November 10, 2020.

ADJOURNED AT 2:47 PM

ATTEST

**STACY CORLESS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

**QUEENIE BARNARD
SENIOR DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD**